

My wife and I are submitting this testimony AGAINST the extension of these bills.

With all the claims of fraud in the last election, we MUST return to in person voting, and require identification to vote. A significant portion of our state and our country have lost faith in the voting system and this will help re-establish our trust in the system. Providing potential paths for fraud to exist, which these bills do, will not accomplish that. I would prefer to not have to be frustrated when I see someone post on Instagram they recently passed father's ballot that they were able to request on his behalf. (It was NOT requested before he passed, as that was months prior to the election)

Given the mitigation of wearing masks, the availability of the vaccine, and a general trend world wide of covid restrictions being completely dismantled, there is no long any reason at all for in person voting to not return. We are all out in public, whether it is working, grocery shopping, or otherwise. The risk is now low, the virus has weakened. This was extremely evident given the positivity rates of a couple months ago, and the relative lack of hospitalizations and deaths associated. The previously existing laws surrounding absentee ballots are more than sufficient to accommodate those with disabilities or highly susceptible to the virus.

Stephen & Rose Soares